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**COMMENTS:**We enclose the attached papers for filing in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office in  
connection with Patent Application Serial No. 09/510,937.\*\*\*\*\*  
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Attorney Docket No. MP/55G

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Campbell et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/510,937  
Filed : 2/22/00  
Title : Thin-Wall Polytetrafluoroethylene Tube

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*Melanne Williams*  
Melanne Williams

Group Art Unit : 1772  
Examiner : Rayford, Sandra M.

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in  
connection with the above-identified Patent Application:

1. Reply to Office Action under 37 CFR 1.111 (2 pages).

Respectfully submitted,

*Wayne D. House*

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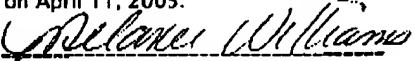
Date: April 11, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Sir:

The following arguments are in reply to the Office Action mailed Jan. 10, 2005 for the above-referenced application.

**I. PRELIMINARY REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has withdrawn the previous 35 USC 112 and 103 rejections. Claims 1-20 are now rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness.

**II. APPLICANTS' INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a catheter balloon made of tube having a microstructure of nodes and fibrils such as porous expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), further including a non-porous coating over the porous microstructure. The coating renders the balloon non-porous and thereby able to contain a desired inflating media (e.g., air or saline fluid). The thinness, flexibility and strength of the construction allow the resulting balloon to be collapsed to a small first diameter for insertion into a vascular conduit to a desired location at which it can be inflated to the maximum diameter of the tube in the fashion of a conventional polyethylene terephthalate (PET) catheter balloon. The balloon of the present invention is superior to such conventional balloons again due to its flexibility, thinness, strength and lubricious materials.